

This month

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An artistic view of the petroleum engineering unit

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—Our apologies to Bill Hodges and any other readers who received one of a limited number of February *Sooner Magazines* that were not assembled properly. One of the boys who works in the bindery of the University Press where the eight-page sections of the magazine are assembled apparently got his assembly line mixed up.

The chances are that only a small number went through this way—with eight pages of reading matter repeated and eight pages missing—but your editor opened each mail with a shudder of apprehension for several days.

Reader Hodges remarked, quite reasonably:

"Although I thoroughly enjoyed the articles and items appearing upon pages 1 to 8 inclusive, and pages 25 to 32, both inclusive, having perused them once, I hardly felt like doing it again at the same sitting. And, moreover, I am rather curious to know what you have to offer on pages 9 to 24, both inclusive, as I am one member of the association who reads the magazine thoroughly and faithfully."

Copies of the February issue guaranteed to contain all the pages from 1 to 32, consecutively and inclusive, will be mailed to any subscriber who reports receiving an imperfect copy.

A new staff writer for *Sooner Magazine* makes her debut in this issue. She is Nancy Royal, arts and sciences sophomore from Konawa, who takes over the authoring of the important Campus Review department. She succeeds Jim Flinchum, who felt compelled to resign because of his heavy duties as editor of the *Oklahoma Daily*.

Mr. Flinchum handled the department competently and leaves the staff with the cordial best wishes of the editor.

O. U. alumni who have youngsters at the age when they make interesting pictures are strangely modest about sending in photographs for publication in *Sooner Magazine*.

We get a good one now and then, but would like to have more. Making a hundred thousand dollars or getting elected president of the firm is great stuff, but there's no achievement quite so worthy of pride as a beautiful daughter or a bright-eyed son.

Send us their pictures and let your friends enjoy seeing them.

—R. C.

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ROSCOE CATE, '26, Editor-Manager

Staff Writers: Harold Keith, Frances Hunt, S. R. Hadsell, Nancy Royal

The Next Big Job for College Alumni

Graduates of America's colleges and universities are facing a grave responsibility—the task of re-selling the general public on the value of higher education in a democracy.

Time was when young people went to college largely to gain the pleasures of intellectual development. The depression killed that; they come now to learn how to make a living.

Time was when a college professor was universally respected as a man of knowledge and judgment. Now the public is likely to suspect him, per se, of being a Red or at least a brain truster at heart.

A few years ago research was regarded as opening the way to a new world of efficiency and happiness; now research, though capturing the interest of the public, is likely to be regarded as an unnecessary frill for an educational plant unless there is an immediate dollars and cents application.

Not so long ago, the people of most states prided themselves in putting educational opportunities for youth ahead of nearly everything else on the budget; now the demands for social security take first place and college budgets are slashed or are allowed to remain static in the face of rising enrolments. Social security is being emphasized; there is danger of losing sight of the democratic goal, education for *individual security*.

College alumni ought to do something about this. They ought to impress upon the public the fact that severe economy in education damages the best machinery our civilization has devised for training competent leadership for democracy, and for extending the boundaries of knowledge—knowledge that is desperately needed to solve our social and economic problems.

College alumni ought to keep pounding home the fact that democracy, from the time of the Greeks, has been based on an educated leadership.

Walter Lippman, one of the keenest observers of the current scene, has concluded that the people of the United States are ceasing to be free because they are no longer being educated in the arts of free men. He believes that we have progressed so rapidly in recent years that we have become engrossed in economic problems and have dropped an iron curtain between ourselves and the sources from which our civilization comes. He believes that the onset of barbarism must be met not only by programs of rearmament, but by another revival of learning.

College alumni ought to impress upon the public the connection between education in the arts of free men, and the maintenance of democracy. They ought to point out to the taxpayers and the philanthropists of America that higher education is the only lasting weapon against barbarism abroad, and against the loss of freedom and opportunity at home.

It is not enough for alumni to work enthusiastically a few days a year to raise funds for their own colleges; they have a patriotic responsibility to promote higher education in general.